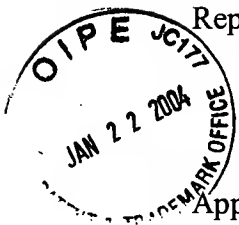


41  
Application No. 09/994,921  
Amendment dated January 22, 2004  
Reply to Office Action dated October 23, 2003



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 09/994,921  
Applicant(s) : Robert D. BUDIC, Ph.D.  
Filed : November 28, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 3662  
Examiner : Ian J. LOBO

Confirmation No.: 7431

Docket No. : 85700-0054  
Customer No. : 24633

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 20313-1450

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**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 23, 2003, reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks is requested.

**Amendments to the specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.